

**What is claimed is:**

1. A shredder comprising:

a seat having a pivot guide;

a shredder housing including a pivot mount;

a shredder mechanism including a motor and cutter elements, the shredder mechanism enabling articles to be shredded to be fed into the cutter elements and the motor being operable to drive the cutter elements so that the cutter elements shred the articles fed therein, the shredder mechanism being mounted in the shredder housing;

the shredder housing being constructed to be removably mounted to the seat in a generally horizontal orientation with the pivot mount removably engaged with the pivot guide;

the pivot mount and the pivot guide being constructed to pivotally mount the shredder housing for pivotal movement between the generally horizontal orientation and a generally vertical orientation.

2. A shredder according to claim 1, wherein the pivot mount and the pivot guide are constructed to provide support to the shredder housing in the generally vertical orientation against movement thereof towards the generally horizontal orientation, thereby facilitating a user (a) lifting the shredder housing in the generally vertical orientation off the seat with the pivot mount disengaging from the pivot guide and (b) lowering the shredder housing in the generally vertical orientation onto the seat with the pivot mount engaging the pivot guide and the pivotally moving the shredder housing downwardly to the generally horizontal orientation.

3. A shredder according to claim 2, further comprising a handle provided on the shredder housing, the handle being constructed to be manually grasped for moving the shredder housing between the generally horizontal and generally vertical orientations on the seat and lifting and lowering the shredder housing off of and onto the seat.

4. A shredder according to claim 3, wherein the pivot guide includes a pair of pivot guides provided on opposing lateral sides of the seat and wherein the pivot mount includes a pair of pivot mounts provided on opposing lateral sides of the shredder housing.

5. A shredder according to claim 4, wherein the pivot guides are upwardly facing recesses.

6. A shredder according to claim 7, wherein each of the upwardly facing recesses has a generally vertical engagement surface provided in a bottom thereof,

the pivot guides and the pivot mounts being constructed such that when the shredder mechanism housing is in the generally vertical orientation thereof the surfaces on the pivot mounts are engaged with the generally vertical engagement surfaces to provide support to the shredder mechanism housing in the generally vertical orientation against movement thereof towards the generally horizontal orientation as aforesaid,

the pivot guides and the pivot mounts being constructed such that the pivot mounts disengage from the generally vertical engagement surfaces as the shredder mechanism housing is moved from the generally vertical orientation to the generally horizontal orientation.

7. A shredder according to claim 3, wherein the handle is provided on a front portion of the shredder housing.

8. A shredder according to claim 7, wherein the handle has a pair of spaced apart connector portions extending from the shredder housing and a hand grip portion extending between the connector portions in spaced apart relation from the shredder housing.

9. A shredder according to claim 4, wherein the handle is provided on a front portion of the shredder housing.

10. A shredder according to claim 9, wherein the handle has a pair of spaced apart connector portions extending from the shredder housing and a hand grip portion extending between the connector portions in spaced apart relation from the shredder housing.

11. A shredder according to claim 5, wherein the handle is provided on a front portion of the shredder housing.

12. A shredder according to claim 11, wherein the handle has a pair of spaced apart connector portions extending from the shredder housing and a hand grip portion extending between the connector portions in spaced apart relation from the shredder housing.

13. A shredder according to claim 6, wherein the handle is provided on a front portion of the shredder housing.

14. A shredder according to claim 13, wherein the handle has a pair of spaced apart connector portions extending from the shredder housing and a hand grip portion extending between the connector portions in spaced apart relation from the shredder housing.

15. A shredder according to claim 2, wherein the seat is constructed to be removably mounted on an upper portion of a container having an upwardly facing opening so that the articles being shredded and discharged from the cutter elements are discharged into the container.

16. A shredder according to claim 2, further comprising a container, wherein the seat is provided by an upper peripheral edge of the container so that the articles being shredded and discharged from the cutter elements are discharged into the container.

17. A shredder according to claim 15, wherein the shredder housing includes a waste opening spaced apart from the shredder mechanism that faces into the container when the seat is removably mounted thereon and the shredder housing is in the generally horizontal orientation for enabling articles to be discarded into the container without passing through the shredder mechanism.

18. A shredder according to claim 17, wherein the waste opening in the shredder housing is defined at least in part by a handle provided on the shredder housing, the handle being constructed to be manually grasped for moving the shredder housing between the generally horizontal and generally vertical orientations on the seat and lifting and lowering the shredder housing off of and onto the seat.

19. A shredder according to claim 18, wherein the handle and the waste opening are provided on a front portion of the shredder housing.

20. A shredder according to claim 19, wherein the handle has a pair of spaced apart connector portions extending from the shredder housing and a hand grip portion extending between the connector portions in spaced apart relation from the shredder housing, the hand grip portion and the connector portions defining part of the waste opening.

21. A shredder according to claim 16, wherein the shredder housing includes a waste opening spaced apart from the shredder mechanism that faces into the container when the shredder mechanism is in the generally horizontal orientation for enabling articles to be discarded into the container without passing through the shredder mechanism.

22. A shredder according to claim 21, wherein the waste opening in the shredder housing is defined at least in part by a handle provided on the shredder housing, the handle being constructed to be manually grasped for moving the shredder housing between the generally horizontal and generally vertical orientations on the seat and lifting and lowering the shredder housing off of and onto the seat.

23. A shredder according to claim 22, wherein the handle and the waste opening are provided on a front portion of the shredder housing.

24. A shredder according to claim 23, wherein the handle has a pair of spaced apart connector portions extending from the shredder housing and a hand grip portion extending

between the connector portions in spaced apart relation from the shredder housing, the hand grip portion and the connector portions defining part of the waste opening.

25. A shredder comprising:

a seat;

a shredder housing, the shredder housing being constructed to be removably mounted to the seat;

a shredder mechanism including a motor and cutter elements, the shredder mechanism enabling articles to be shredded to be fed into the cutter elements and the motor being operable to drive the cutter elements so that the cutter elements shred the articles fed therein, the shredder mechanism being mounted in the shredder housing;

the shredder housing including a waste opening spaced apart from the shredder mechanism for enabling articles to be discarded through the waste opening without passing through the shredder mechanism; and

a handle connected to the shredder housing for facilitating removal of the shredder housing from the seat, the handle defining at least a portion of the waste opening.

26.